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Patriotism at Ebb, Agnew Tells Cadets

NEW LONDON, Conn., June 7 (AP)—Vice President Spiro T. Agnew today criticized "some of the most influential voices in our midst" who "deride our allies and applaud our enemies, bewail our shortcomings and ignore our virtues."

In a commencement address to cadets at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Agnew said:

"It's a time when it is apparently more fashionable to run our country down than to serve it, when patriotism seems to be at ebb tide and anti-militarism at a flood.

"The bitter experience in Vietnam has rekindled the hope—and the illusion, I might add — among some that if we unilaterally withdraw and disarm, aggressors will abandon their dreams of conquest," Agnew said.

The Vice President didn't identify the influential critics by name, but he said, "There is the voice of dissent being given full volume in our land and it must at times seem to you to be the dominant voice. . . . It takes dedication and pride to wear the uniform under present conditions."